

1. A process for producing formed cellulosic articles, such as fibres, filaments, sheetings, membranes or tubes, comprising

a) extruding a solution of cellulose in an aqueous amine oxide, particularly N-methylmorpholine N-oxide, through an extrusion die via an air gap and coagulating the formed article in an aqueous precipitation bath containing amine oxide, and

b) passing the formed article through at least one washing stage for removing residual amine oxide,

characterized in that the liquor of the precipitation bath in the precipitation stage and/or the washing liquor of the washing stage(s) is treated with ultra-violet radiation.

2. The process according to claim 1 wherein the ultra-violet radiation has a wave length in the range from 200 to 280 nm.
3. The process according to claim 2 wherein the ultra-violet radiation has a wave length of 254 nm.
4. The process according to claim 2 wherein the ultra-violet radiation is generated by a mercury low-pressure lamp.
5. The process according to claim 2 wherein the UV treatment is limited to the liquors of the washing stage(s) having a temperature below 50°C.
6. The process according to claim 1 wherein precipitation bath liquors or washing liquors having a Hazen color number $H_z \leq 400$ is subjected to the UV treatment.
7. The process according to claim 1 wherein the precipitation bath and several washing stages are connected in series and have liquor cycles of their own, characterized in that the cycle

irradiating washing liquor containing a N-methylmorpholine N-oxide in at least one washing stage with ultra-violet radiation in a sufficient amount to effectively reduce unwanted microorganisms therein, the ultra-violet radiation having a wave length in the range from 200 to 280 nm.

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From WO 96/18761 a process is known in which the biological substances in the baths are degraded by using usual oxidants, such as e.g. hydrogen peroxide, peracetic acid, ozone or chlorine